

IN THE CLAIMS:

The following is a complete listing of claims in this application.

Claims 1-18 (canceled).

19. (currently amended) A topical sunscreen composition, comprising a three-phase emulsion consisting essentially of at least one sunscreen filter, an emulsifier, one oily outer phase and two aqueous inner phases, one of said inner phases being a gel having a viscosity greater than 2000 cPs, as measured on a Brookfield LV at 6 rpm, and said at least one sunscreen filter being contained in at least one of said phases,

wherein the gel phase comprises a polymer selected from the group consisting of homopolymers and copolymers of acrylic acid, acrylic acid derivatives, acrylamide, acrylamide derivatives and acrylamidomethanepropanesulfonic acid, and
wherein the oily outer phase comprises an oil in an amount of at least 2% and at most 20% by weight of the topical sunscreen composition.

Claim 20 (canceled).

21. (currently amended) The composition according to claim ~~20~~ 19, wherein the oily outer phase comprises an oil in an amount of 5 to 20% by weight of the topical sunscreen composition.

22. (previously presented) A sunscreen composition according to claim 19, wherein the emulsifier is selected from the group consisting of alkylpolyglycosides, alkylpolyglycosides derived from fatty alcohols and the corresponding fatty alcohols, polyglycerol esters, polyglycol esters, polyol esters, alkoxyated polyglycerol esters, alkoxyated polyglycol esters, alkoxyated polyol esters and polyethyleneglycol / alkylglycol copolymers and mixtures

thereof.

23. (previously presented) A sunscreen composition according to claim 22, wherein the emulsifier is a combination of a first emulsifier which is a polyglycol polyhydroxystearate, a polyol polyhydroxystearate or alkoxyated polyol polyhydroxystearate, a polyglycerol ester or a polyethyleneglycol / alkylglycol copolymer, and a second emulsifier which is an alkylpolyglycoside or a composition containing both alkylpolyglycosides and fatty alcohols.

24. (previously presented) A sunscreen composition according to claim 19, wherein the sunscreen filter comprises 2% to 40% by weight of the topical sunscreen composition.

25. (previously presented) A sunscreen composition according to claim 24, wherein the sunscreen filter comprises 5% to 20% by weight of the topical sunscreen composition.

26. (previously presented) A sunscreen composition according to claim 19, wherein the gel phase comprises a polymer in an amount of 0.02% to 10% by weight of the gel phase.

27. (previously presented) A sunscreen composition according to claim 26, wherein the polymer is present in the gel phase in an amount of 0.4 to 8% by weight.

28. (previously presented) A sunscreen composition according to claim 19, which further comprises at least one mineral filler.

29. (currently amended) A process for the manufacture of a sunscreen composition comprising a three-phase emulsion consisting essentially of at least one sunscreen filter, an emulsifier, one oily outer phase and two aqueous inner phases, one of said inner phases being a gel having a viscosity greater than 2000 cPs, as measured on a Brookfield LV at 6 rpm, and said at least one sunscreen filter being contained in

at least one of said phases,

wherein the gel phase comprises a polymer selected from the group consisting of homopolymers and copolymers of acrylic acid, acrylic acid derivatives, acrylamide, acrylamide derivatives and acrylamidomethanepropanesulfonic acid, and

wherein the oily outer phase comprises an oil in an amount of at least 2% and at most 20% by weight of the sunscreen composition,

comprising the step of mixing a primary water-in-oil emulsion with an aqueous gel.

30. (previously presented) The process according to claim 29, wherein 5 to 80% by weight of the primary emulsion is mixed with 20 to 95% by weight of the aqueous gel.

31. (previously presented) The process according to claim 30, wherein 5 to 80% by weight of the primary emulsion is mixed with 40 to 90% by weight of the aqueous gel.

32. (previously presented) The process according to claim 29, wherein the primary emulsion is introduced into the aqueous gel.

33. (previously presented) The process according to claim 29, wherein the aqueous gel is introduced into the primary emulsion.

34. (previously presented) The process according to claim 29, wherein the aqueous gel is obtained by gelling an aqueous phase with a polymer.

35. (previously presented) The process according to claim 34, wherein said polymer is present in an amount of between 0.02 and 10% by weight of the aqueous gel.

Claim 36 (canceled).

37. (previously presented) The process according to claim 29, wherein said viscosity is greater than 20000 cPs.

38. (previously presented) The process according claim

29, wherein the primary emulsion comprises from 5 to 90% by weight of oil.

39. (previously presented) The process according to claim 29, wherein the primary emulsion comprises from 1 to 25% by weight of the emulsifier.

Claim 40 (canceled).